

Belvoir Special School Newsletter



38 Gayview Drive, WODONGA, 3690

Dear Parents/Carers/Friends,

Here we are nearly at the end of Week 7 of Term 2, over halfway, but where has the first half of the year gone. It was a pleasure last Friday afternoon to sit as part of the audience at our Whole School Assembly. This was a great way to acknowledge the gifts, skills and learning of our students and share a little snapshot of their achievements to our parents/carers.



RECONCILIATION WEEK – NOW MORE THAN EVER

This week, we acknowledge National Reconciliation Week as a time for all Australians to learn about our shared histories, cultures, and achievements, and to explore how each of us can contribute to achieving reconciliation in Australia.

National Reconciliation Week takes place between 27th May and 3rd June every year in Australia.

These dates commemorate two significant milestones in the reconciliation journey: the successful 1967 Referendum and the High Court Mabo decision, respectively.

The National Reconciliation Week theme for 2024, 'Now More Than Ever', is a reminder to all of us that the reconciliation process is ongoing, that there is still a way to go to ensure that Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples stop facing discrimination in our Australian communities. I invite our Belvoir families to think about ways that they can engage in Reconciliation Week:

- Talking with your children about the history of Australia and why we celebrate National Reconciliation Week.
- Listen to music that was made by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples.
- Celebrate art made by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples.
- Learn about Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples of our local communities.
- Explore one of the local walking trails in our local Albury Wodonga Community that showcases local Aboriginal stories and artwork.

We each have a role to play when it comes to reconciliation, and in doing so, we collectively build relationships and communities that value Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, histories, cultures, and futures. Now more than ever.

2025 ENROLMENTS

Enrolments are now open!

NEW FAMILIES: If you know of any family who might be interested in finding out more about Belvoir, please encourage them to book a tour or chat with our Administration Staff on

[\(02\)6059 8987](tel:0260598987)

Pennie Moffat
Principal

2024 DATES TO REMEMBER

Finance Meeting
7th June

**Kings Birthday
Public Holiday**
10th June

School Council
12th June

Last Day Term 2
Friday 28th June
2.00pm Finish

BUS PHONE NUMBERS

BUS 1: 0460 935 609

BUS 2: 0460 875 492

BUS 3: 0460 896 490

BUS 4: 0460 869 012

Belvoir Bus: 0431 756 813

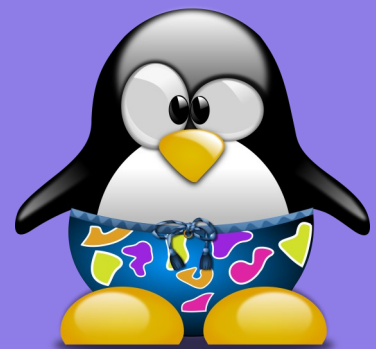
ROOM 17 NEWS

Max, Darren & Renu

Last week, Purple pod had swimming lessons. On Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday we went to the pool for our swimming lessons. The room 17 students have not only learned essential swimming skills but have also embraced the joy of being in the water.

Beyond the physical benefits, swimming also offers valuable lessons in water safety. Equipping our students with the knowledge and skills to stay safe in and around water is an essential part of our commitment to their well-being.

At the start of the week, some of us were hesitant to try out the water but everyone gave it a try and we all had lots of fun in the end.



ROOM 19 NEWS

Erica, Pam & Sue

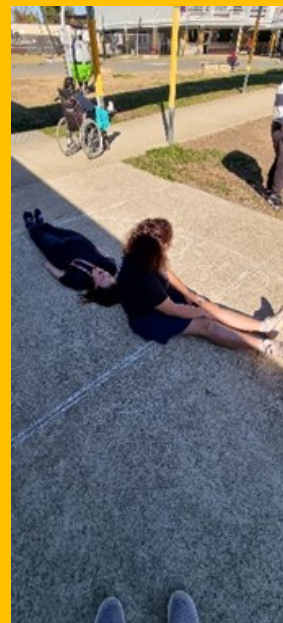


WOW! We can't believe how fast this term is going by. This term we have been busy learning about procedures in Literacy, by writing our own procedures for how to do many things e.g., brushing your teeth, having a shower, how to get dressed, how to wash your dog and many more. Following on from this, students have been learning to read and follow a procedure during cooking. Students have enjoyed making pancakes, hot dogs, pizza, chocolate balls, ANZAC biscuits, and many more yummy treats. We are looking forward to the rest of the term to cook more delicious food. During math, students have been learning about time. We have focused on the features of analogue and digital clocks, reading time to the hour and half hour. In the coming weeks we will be looking at reading time to the quarter hour. One activity we have enjoyed is, using our bodies to be the hands on the clock.

During respectful relationships and family planning students have been learning about personal strengths and body awareness. Students have also been focusing on working with others, taking turns and playing games together.

Over the start of the term, we have celebrated a number of birthdays within our classroom. We have wished and celebrated Shandy and Matilda's 18th birthday, Jack and Aeden's 17th birthday, and our wonderful ES Sue's birthday (I wonder, did she really turn 23?).

We are all looking forward to the rest of the term and all the fun learning we have.



Tennis Skills Day in Wangaratta 2024

On Thursday this week a group of orange and purple pod students attended a tennis skills and competition day in Wangaratta. The day involved both a non-competitive skills development aspect and a friendly singles and doubles competition against Wangaratta District Specialist School. This catered to a wide range of players, making sure everyone could participate and have fun. This event was the inaugural Belvoir vs W.D.S.S tennis cup that will become an annual event in which we compete for each year. The way that it was scored was 10-minute matches counting every point that you won. At the end of each match the scores were tallied, and opponents swapped. We had 3 rounds of singles, then 3 rounds of doubles. The singles round scores were Belvoir – 394 vs Wangaratta – 484. The doubles round scores were Belvoir – 464 vs Wangaratta – 428. The total score made Wangaratta come out on top with a score of 912, vs Belvoir with a score of 858. Competing for the tennis trophy between the two schools adds a competitive yet friendly element, encouraging our students to develop a sense of pride in getting to represent Belvoir. It could foster a sense of camaraderie among schools and promote ongoing engagement in tennis within the community.



Overall, it was a great event that combined fun, socialisation, and healthy competition. It was a hit with the students and will become a much-anticipated annual tradition!

Wellbeing



National Reconciliation Week is a chance for all schools to reflect and learn more about our shared histories, cultures and achievements, and to explore how each of us can contribute to achieving reconciliation in Australia.

World Environment Day: Wednesday 5th June (WK8)

World Environment Day is to encourage awareness and action to protect our environment. This year's campaign focuses on land restoration, desertification and drought resilience.

During week 8 all pods will have an opportunity to engage in interactive planting activity in which each student can take home individual peat pot with planted seed.



Pride Month occurs in June and is a month-long celebration that recognizes the LGBTQ+ community and their contributions to society. It is a time to acknowledge the challenges faced by this community and to stand in solidarity with their fight for equality, acceptance, and human rights.

As the weather gets colder we would like to remind all our families that through the wellbeing team you can receive support to access pre loved school uniform items or a uniform voucher through State School Relief (SSR).

Further to this, you can also have access to food parcels (upon request). These are available to all our families with no limit re: number of engagement.

For support enquiries please contact our wellbeing team via telephone (02) 6059 8987 or email (see below).

- Family wellbeing/ access to food and uniform support: Leah Sisley
email: leah.sisley@education.vic.gov.au
- Student mental health concerns : Grace Churches
email: grace.churches@education.vic.gov.au

Wellbeing



FoodShare's Community Pantry service supports members of the community experiencing financial hardship by providing:

- fresh fruit and vegetables
- protein and dairy products
- pantry staples/ household items/ frozen

How to access the supermarket:

If you or your family are struggling to put food on the table but you have funds available to cover the cost of a voucher, the agencies listed below are facilitating access to FoodShare vouchers. 1. You will need to buy a \$25 or a \$15 voucher from one of the below locations 2. Take the voucher to redeem it for food and supplies at 81 Wigg Street—FoodShare supermarket.

Vouchers are available from:

- The Personnel Group- 02 6041 1577
- Hyphen - Wodonga Library Gallery
- Vincent de Paul - Wodonga- 02 6024 3493 and leave a message for a call back
- VACCA— 03 5756 9000



The Department of Transport & Planning [Travel Pass program](#) provides free 30-day Travel Passes to Victorian students who are experiencing crisis to ensure they can continue to attend school by using public transport.

The program was recently expanded to include caregivers of eligible students, ensuring that they can accompany a student on their journey. Students' eligibility is determined on a case-by-case basis by the school and the passes can be used across Victoria's public transport network.

Travel Passes

Primary, secondary and specialist schools can receive 30-day Travel Passes free of charge to give to students in crisis.

Travel Passes can be used on:

- bus, train and tram trips in metropolitan Melbourne (Zone 1 and 2)
- all regional town buses
- PTV inter-town buses
- V/Line coaches
- V/Line trains.

How to apply

Students can apply directly to their school.

Government schools can apply on behalf of students via their State Schools' Relief online portal.

School Vaccination Program: BELVOIR SPECIAL SCHOOL

School vaccinations are being conducted at this school on **Thursday 13th June 2024**

The following vaccines will be offered on this day:

YEAR LEVEL	VACCINES OFFERED
YEAR 7 MALE & FEMALE STUDENTS	Human Papilloma Virus (HPV) 1 Dose Only Diphtheria, Tetanus and Pertussis 1 Dose Only
YEAR 10 MALE & FEMALE STUDENTS	Nimenrix (Meningococcal ACWY) 1 Dose Only

These vaccinations are funded as part of the Victorian Secondary School Vaccination Program. Should your child miss out on starting their vaccination course this year they may not be eligible to receive them for free in subsequent years. Instructions below. If you **DO NOT** wish to have your child vaccinated or if your child has **already been vaccinated elsewhere**, please select the relevant **NO Denied consent** fields using the link provided, as per the instructions below. Please complete the online consent process as soon as possible as vaccination cannot proceed without consent.

How to provide online consent for vaccination for Year 7 students:

To complete online consent for your Year 7 child's school vaccinations, click on the following link Yr 7 – <https://portal.cirv.vic.gov.au//PrivacyCollection/?id=7f54c130-19e7-ee11-904d-000d3ae1ab1a&Year7>

How to provide online consent for vaccination for Year 10 students:

To complete online consent for your Year 7 child's school vaccinations, click on the following link Yr 10 – <https://portal.cirv.vic.gov.au//PrivacyCollection/?id=c2bf8c2c-19e7-ee11-904d-000d3ae1aeaf&Year10>

Instructions once you have clicked on the correct link

Once in the portal, you will be able to view information about the vaccine/s being offered as part of the school vaccination program. Please read this information carefully.

Once in the portal, click next.

Enter your mobile number.

You will receive a text message with a 6 digit code – enter this code on the screen.

Confirm your child's school and Year level, if correct click next.

In the student details section, enter your child's:

First name - Surname - Gender - Date of birth - Medicare number - Position on the Medicare card

Indigenous status - Address

Click next.

Provide consent for the vaccine. Click edit. Select yes granted, if you would like your child to receive the vaccine at school OR no denied, if you would NOT like your child to receive the vaccine at school.

As parent/consenter enter your details as follows:

First name - Surname - Relationship to student - Mobile number - Email

Click next.

Review the Pre-Immunisation checklist and enter any pre-existing medical conditions, severe allergies or previous reactions to vaccination. If there is none, please leave blank

Click next

Review all entered information and ensure it is correct.

Click confirm at the bottom of the screen.

You will receive a confirmation email. Please keep this as it has a confirmation code that you will need if you want to change/amend consent prior to the vaccination day.

The benefits of providing consent online:

Receive email notifications when vaccinations are given

faster upload of vaccination records to the Australian Immunisation Register (AIR)

Ability to change or amend consent through the online parent portal

If your child is to be vaccinated at school, please ensure they are wearing their sports uniform and have eaten breakfast on the day.

Parents/guardians who wish to withdraw their consent for any reason may do so by logging into the parent portal and using your confirmation code to change the online consent. You can also email Council's Immunisation Team on immunise@wodonga.vic.gov.au **before** the vaccination day.

If you have any enquiries about the program or your child's vaccinations, please contact Wodonga Council's Immunisation Team on 1800 655 360.

COLLECTION OF STUDENTS AT THE END OF EACH DAY

The front of our school gets very busy at the end of the day.

To help our bus travellers get to the buses quickly and with limited disruptions we kindly ask that families, carers and support workers please wait outside the school until after the bell or 3pm.

Suitable places to wait include:

- In your car
- Opposite the front gate in the garden
- Along the rear wall of the hall.

We want our bus travellers to have a smooth transition to the buses. In the past we have seen that when there are too many people waiting at the front of the school our students can become overwhelmed.

Your support is going to help everyone have a positive end to their school day.



DON'T FORGET!



SCHOLASTIC
Book Club
orders are due:
Wednesday
12th June, 2024

TERM DATES 2024

	START	FINISH
Term 1	29/01/2024	28/03/2024
Term 2	15/04/2024	28/06/2024
Term 3	15/07/2024	20/09/2024
Term 4	07/10/2024	20/12/2024

Please note that school finishes at 2.00pm last day of the term except for Term 4.



School Expectations



• **Follow Instructions**



• **Be Safe**



• **Be Respectful**



Check Out Our Facebook Page!

As many of you may already know, Belvoir has created a Facebook page. You can access the page by going on to Facebook and searching for "Belvoir Special School-Parents and Friends". This page is used to promote events, share information and showcase achievements of classes and individual students. We would love for you to share this page with your friends and family so that everyone can see the great things happening in our school.

Let's Talk: Relationships, sex, and pornography

Navigating relationships and sex can be challenging for young people with disability. They can misinterpret social cues and be more vulnerable to pressure and the impacts of pornography.

ACD and Amaze are hosting Let's Talk: relationships, sex, and pornography, a FREE online presentation for [families of children aged 12+ with disability](#). [It will help them better understand and](#) support their children to navigate respectful, consenting relationships.

The session will be presented by Dr. Wenn Lawson, autism expert, researcher and author, and Maree Crabbe, educator, and Director of the Australian Violence Prevention initiative.

[Topics include:](#)

- Autism, young people, and technology
- Autism, young people, puberty and sexuality
- Pornography and young people
- What we can do to address pornography's influence

Date: Tuesday 25 June 7.00 pm to 9.00 pm

Places are limited, [so book your spot today](#)



Let's Talk
Relationships, sex & pornography*

Free online presentation

PORN IS NOT THE NORM

amaze

Association for Children with a Disability

We do not advocate looking at pornography with a child. This is illegal.

APPRENTICESHIP INFO NIGHT

Hear about construction trade opportunities in the Albury Wodonga region. This event is for students interested in a trades career, for parents helping their child choose their next step, and employers wanting to engage with local students.

PROGRAM

- Welcome
- Introduction to Trades
Keynote
- Panel 1: Current & former
local apprentices
- Panel 2: Careers Advisers
& Parent of Apprentice
- Industry Landscape with
AlburyCity
- Employer Networking



JUNE 5 | 5.30 PM
COMMERCIAL CLUB

REGISTER NOW



www.alburywodongacareersadvisersassociation.com.au



katie.friedlieb@det.nsw.edu.au

Albury Wodonga Careers Expo

Thursday 13 June 5.30 - 7pm

The Scots School Albury

Free entry.

Exhibitors include: VIC, NSW & ACT universities, TAFEs, businesses, government, apprenticeship and traineeship support, gap year opportunities.

Hosted by: Regional Industry Education Partnerships (RIEP),
Albury Wodonga Careers Advisers Association



Download our school app for free!



- Instant news notifications
- Online absentee forms
- Events and reminders



Download instructions:

1. Go to the App Store and download "School Stream" to your phone.

2. Open the app and type the school's name into the search bar to load the school's profile.

3. Make sure you agree to Push Notifications when prompted.